GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5008
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
INDO-US JOINT WORKING GROUP MEET
GOWDAR MALLIKARJUNAPPA;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the topics discussed at the Indo-US Joint Working Group Meet in November, 2000;

(b) the outcome thereof; and

(c) the stand of the Union Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) During the visit of Prime Minister to the United States in September 2000, Prime Minister and the US President had agreed to broaden cooperation between India and the US in peacekeeping and other areas of UN activities.As part of this process, the two sides have established a Joint Working Group on UN Peacekeeping Operations, which held its first meeting in New Delhi on 1-2 November 2000.

(b) At the meeting, the two sides agreed that the purpose of the Joint Working Group is to deepen mutual understanding and co-operation, and create better appreciation of each other`s perspectives, on UN peacekeeping issues. The Group`s activities may also make a contribution to the ongoing process of improving UN Peacekeeping Operations and procedures.This Joint Working Group is a reflection of the growing cooperation between India and the United States on international issues of mutual concern, including those relating to the UN.